

April 30, 1993      LB 253, 610, 781

PRESIDENT MOUL: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB 781 pass with the emergency clause attached? All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See page 1848 of the Legislative Journal.) 34 ayes, 0 nays, 4 present and not voting, 11 excused and not voting, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 781 passes with the emergency clause attached. LB 253.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Wesely would move to return LB 253 to Select File for a specific amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I have passed around for you a packet of materials about this amendment. I guess I'm not sure what page it is found in the Journal.

CLERK: 1675, Senator.

SENATOR WESELY: 1675.

CLERK: Yes, sir.

SENATOR WESELY: The essence of the amendment, however, is found in LB 610 which is a piece of legislation I introduced on behalf of a number of nonprofit organizations in the state to try to provide for some higher level of protection for volunteers for nonprofit organizations from lawsuits. This has been, I think all of us know, a concern of nonprofit organizations and volunteers across the state for a long time. The desire by some to go to court and sue individuals more readily than in the past has led to a chilling effect on volunteerism. It had a chilling effect on some of the activities of not-for-profit organizations out serving our communities, and this concern has not only been found in Nebraska but across the country. And unlikely as it may seem, I'm carrying this bill on behalf of former President Bush which should concern you a little bit but I did have the pleasure of going back and attending a briefing of his to a number of legislators on the question of volunteerism and his